

# Reducing Incarceration, Securing the Public Safety



**Technical Notes Available Upon Request**

# TODAY'S GOOD NEWS

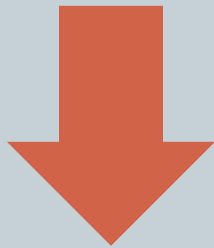


- **Washingtonians are safer.** The crime rate is at its lowest point in 20 years.
- Washington is **saving over \$1.1 b in prison costs and \$5 b in victim costs** each biennium.
- Youth are less likely to commit crimes. But when they do, juveniles are far more likely to get **effective treatment that keeps them from becoming career criminals.**

# BEHIND THE GOOD NEWS: Washington's Common Sense Strategy

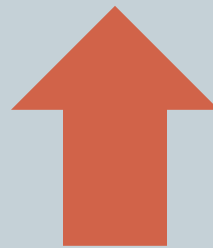


73% of offenders in Washington prison were involved in the juvenile justice system (state & local).



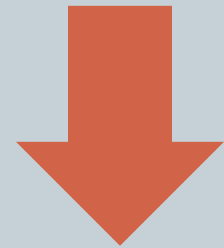
## **RISK**

Reduce the Likelihood  
of Ever Entering the  
System



## **TREATMENT**

Solve Underlying  
Problems and Help  
People Get Better



## **RECIDIVISM**

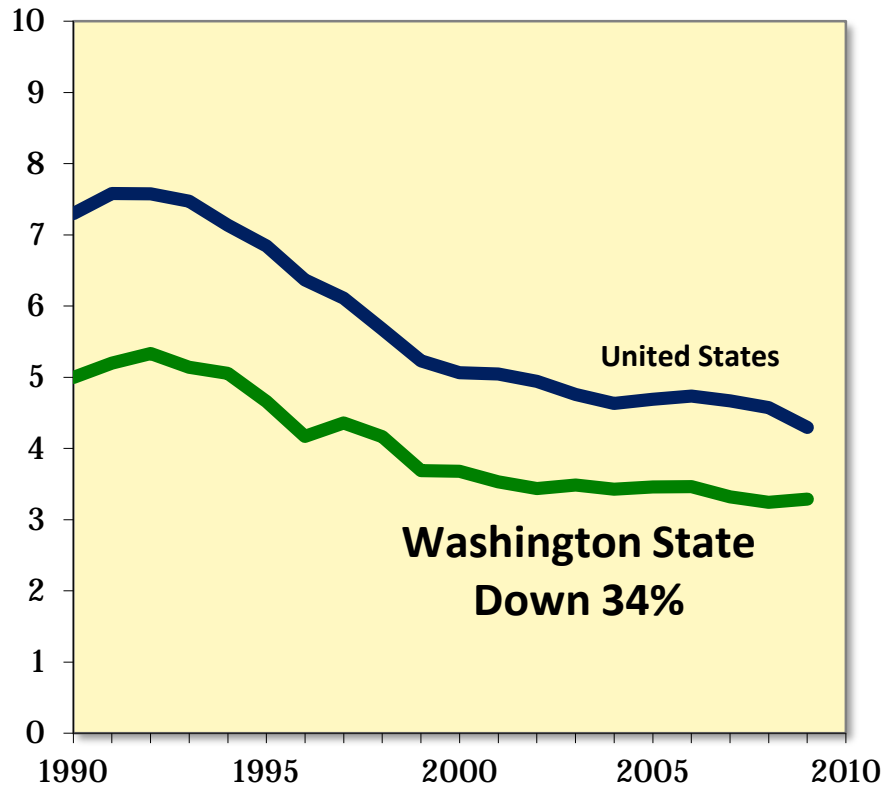
Prevent the Next  
Offense

# WASHINGTON CRIME IS DOWN 35%

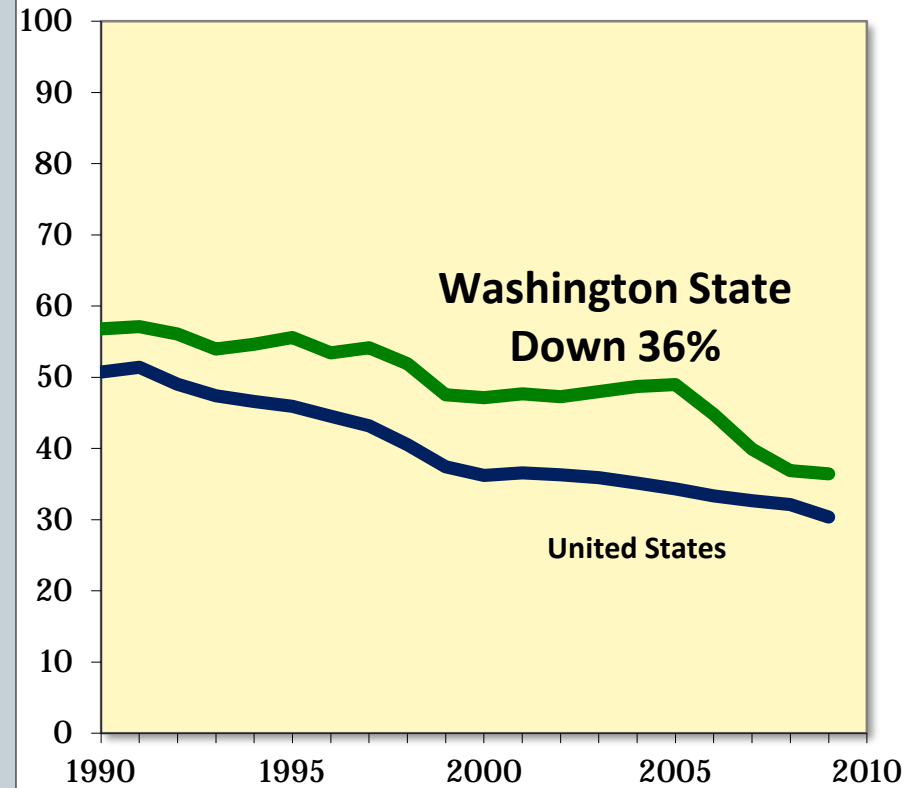
## 56,000 fewer crimes. 18,330 fewer criminals



### ***Violent Crime Rates***



### ***Property Crime Rate***



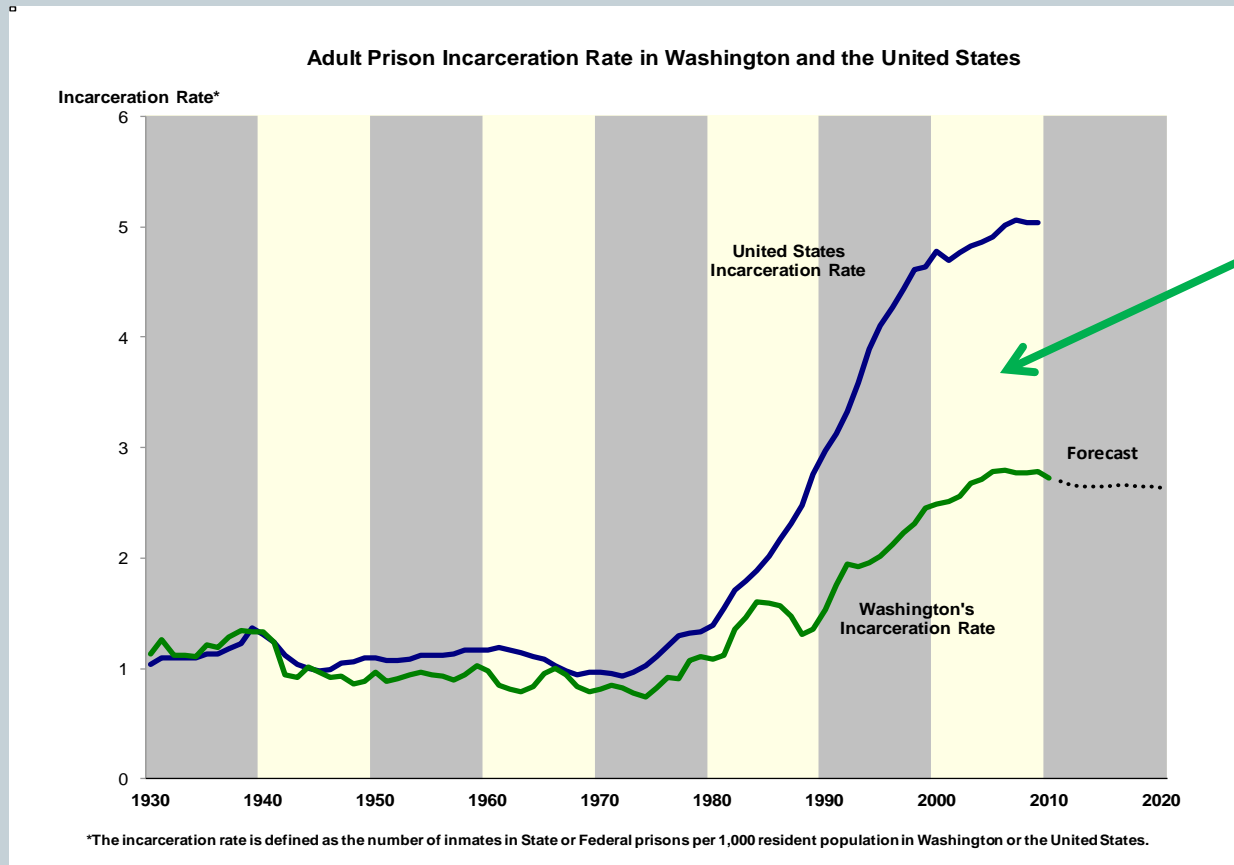
# FEWER VICTIMS, FEWER COSTS



**Washington residents  
are spared \$5.1 billion  
in victims' costs each  
biennium, compared to  
2006 crime rates\***



# TAXPAYERS SAVE ON PRISONS, TOO: \$1.14 billion each biennium



Most of the nation has reduced crime by incarcerating more and more people. Had Washington relied on incarceration to achieve today's low crime rates, 18,330 additional people would be in prison at the cost of over \$1 billion each biennium.

# JRA POPULATION IS DOWN 52%

## 782 juveniles cost \$159.4m/biennium



JRA Facilities Average Annual Population 1997-2011



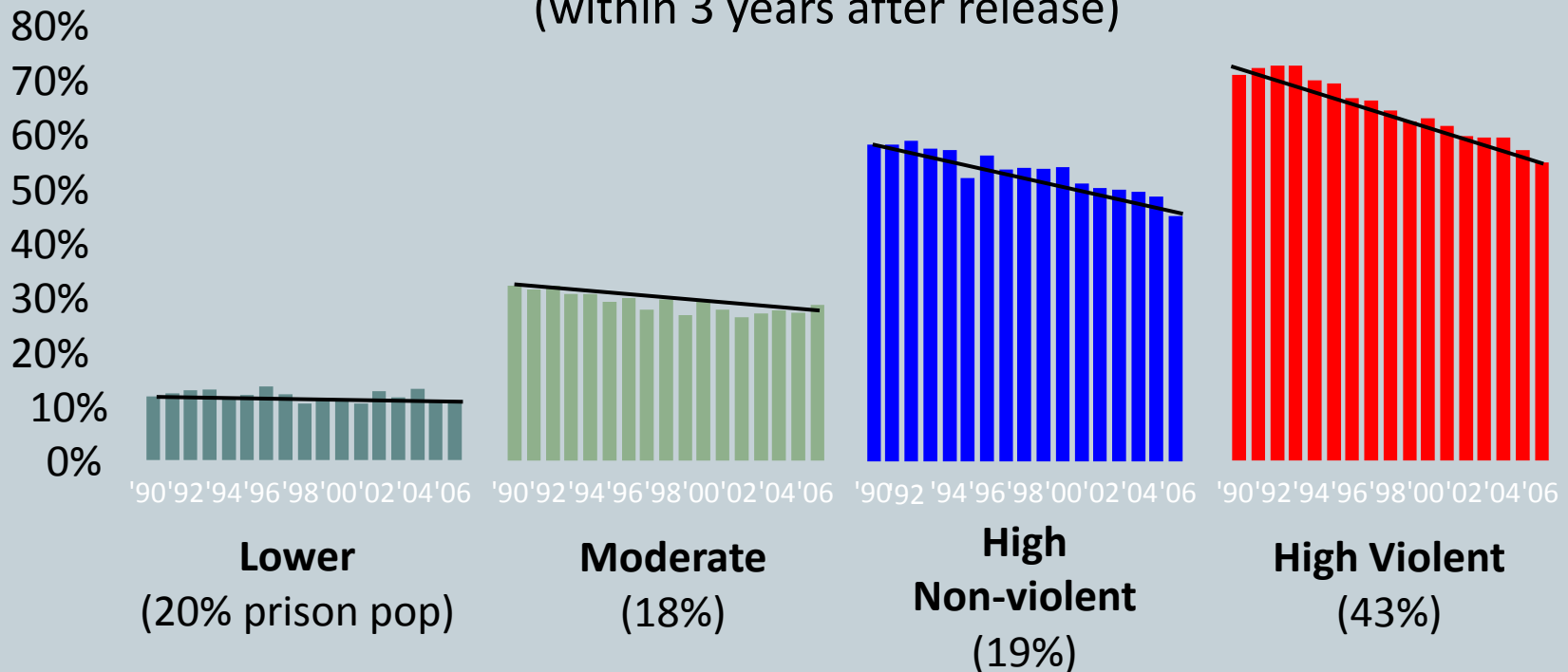
At its highest point, the ADP in state juvenile facilities was 1426. Today, it is 644. The average cost at a JRA facility is \$93,923/ year; annual debt service is \$8,000/ person/ year.

# DECLINING ADULT RECIDIVISM



## Any Felony Re-conviction

(within 3 years after release)



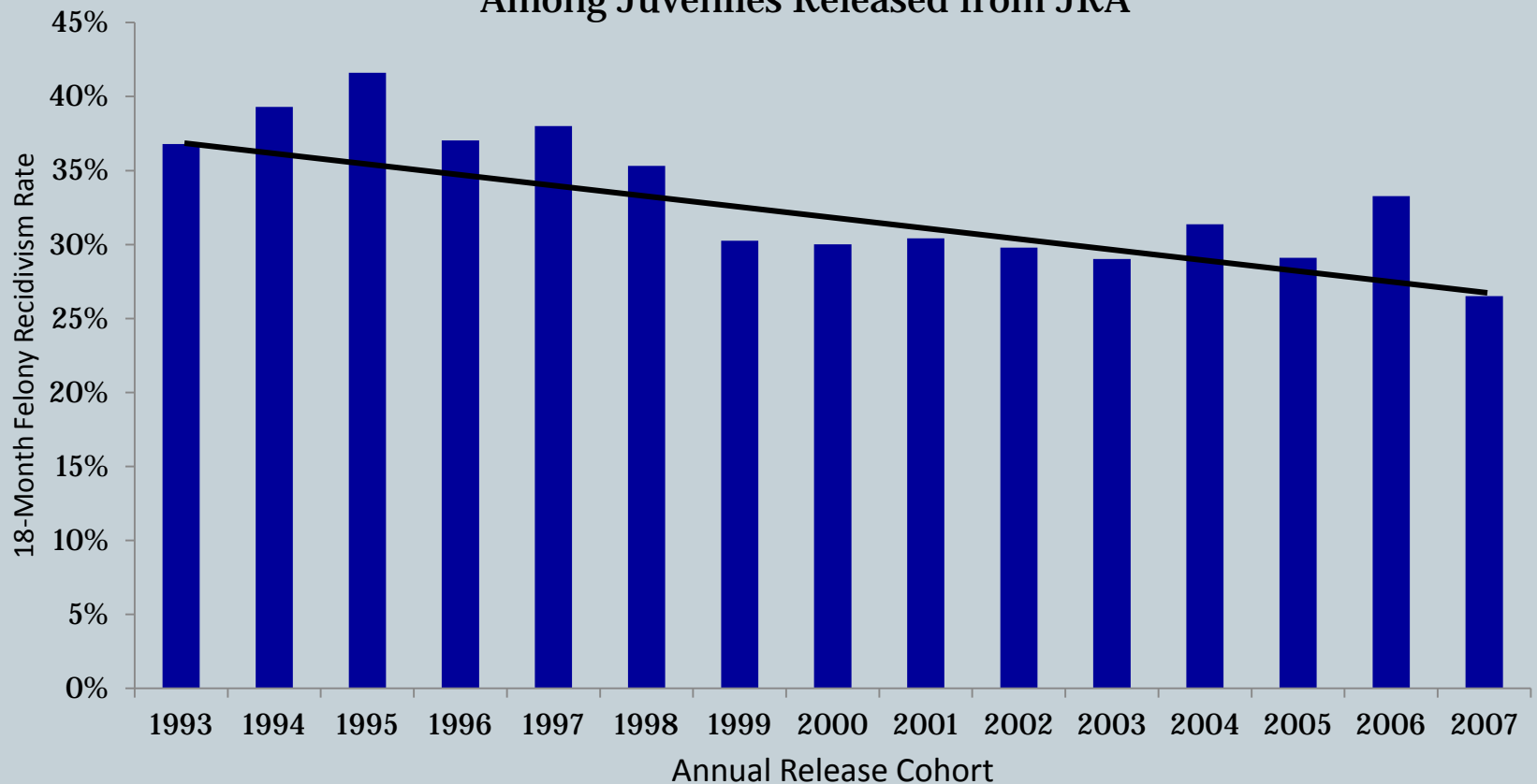
Risk Classification Level of Offenders In Prison  
By Year of Release from Prison



# DECLINING JUVENILE RECIDIVISM



## 18-Month Felony Recidivism Rates Among Juveniles Released from JRA



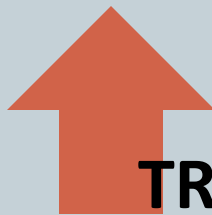
# LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

## Example Policies Adopted Since 1994



### RISK

1994 Violence Reduction Act  
1995 Becca Bill  
1998 Mental health & chemical dependency treatment for youth (SB6208)  
1999 Creating HOPE beds (HB1493)  
1999 Early truancy (SB5988)  
2001 Independent Living to 21 (HB1259)  
2003 Coordination of mental health for children (HB 1784)  
2006 Reinvesting in youth (HB 1483)



### TREATMENT

1997 Disposition Alternatives (HB 3900)  
1998 Authorizing E&T of mentally ill offenders (SB 5760)  
1998 Involuntary treatment for offenders (SB 6214)  
1999 DMIO (SB 5011)  
2001 Persons incapacitated by chemical dependency (SB5051)  
2001 CDDA (SB5468)  
2002 Drug offenses & treatment (HB 2338)  
2003 MHDA for youth (SB 5903)  
2005 Omnibus treatment of mental & substance abuse disorders act



### RECIDIVISM

1991 Reform of Correctional Industries (HB 1686)  
1999 Rehabilitative programs in DOC (HB 1006)  
2003 Supervision standards (SB5990)  
2007 Offender re-entry (SB 6157 >budget proviso)  
2008 Inmate education (SB 6790)

# SMART STRATEGY, HIGH RETURNS

**STRATEGIC  
INVESTMENTS\***  
**\$178.9 million**



**RETURN+**  
**\$2.26 billion public**  
**\$5.12 billion private**



•Based on FY08 and FY09 spending on programs intended to reduce risk, deliver treatment and reduce recidivism.  
•+Source: Washington State Institute for Public Policy. Investments at this level have yielded return over time.

# PAY NOW OR PAY LATER



Don't blow the engine.

**Cuts here are false  
cuts.**

